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The Fierce Green Fire

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# The Fierce Green Fire: Vol. 3 Issue 2

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# The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

Volume 3, Issue 2



*Dr. Catlla's Math 212 class studies stream flow to measure velocity in Lawson's Fork at Glendale.*

## *Thinking Like a River... in action!*

We are beginning our 3-year *Thinking Like a River* initiative this semester, and the first step is getting to know our local rivers. Already several classes have been out on the Lawson's Fork and the Pacolet Rivers. Environmental Studies 203 has kayaked down the Pacolet from the old textile mill at Clifton to the confluence of the Lawson's Fork and the Pacolet. Half the class paddled one week, with beautiful sunny weather, and half the class paddled the next week with a light drizzle. Sights included hawks and herons, scour pits in the exposed bedrock, cold springs, and even a water snake eating a catfish!

Meanwhile the other half of the class each week measured the stream flow at our new stream gauge located on the Lawson's Fork near the country club. You can visit the stream gauge website to monitor the level of the Lawson's Fork and see how the creek responds to rain events. Get there from the "dam cam" website:

<http://www.wofford.edu/environmentalstudies/damcam.aspx>, and you can check out the current weather conditions from our new weather station at the Goodall Center in Glendale as well!

In addition to ENVS 203's adventures, Dr. Anne Catlla ventured to the Lawson's Fork at Glendale with her Vector Calculus class, Math 212. Her students creatively designed apparatus to measure the direction of stream flow, and used the Goodall Center's velocimeters to measure velocity. They collected data at almost 30 locations to make a map of the stream's velocity field.

*Dr. Savage's ENVS 203 students enjoy their paddle down the Pacolet. Along the way they saw a water snake eating a catfish.*



*ENVS 203 students listen to instructions before beginning their river float down the Pacolet River.*



## Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- September 22<sup>nd</sup>** **Pacolet River Sweep:** 9:00am-noon. Volunteers should meet at 929 River Street, Spartanburg, SC, 29307. They will be cleaning along the dam at Clifton #1 and the beach and dam at Clifton #2. For more information, contact Don Bramlett (864) 590-7442 or [donnb185@att.net](mailto:donnb185@att.net).
- September 22<sup>nd</sup>** **Lake Bowen Lake Sweep:** 8:00am-noon. This annual environmental project helps keep our waterways, roadsides and community clean of litter and debris. Please contact John Moore (864) 592-2240 or [jmoore@spartanburgwater.org](mailto:jmoore@spartanburgwater.org) if you would like to volunteer.
- September 25<sup>th</sup>** **Wild and Scenic Film Festival:** Hosted by Upstate Forever focuses on films that speak to environmental concerns and celebrations of our planet. Doors open at 6:00pm at the Chapman Cultural Center, show starts at 6:30. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7.50 for students and are available at <http://www.upstateforever.org/WildScenicFilmFestival.html>.
- September 27<sup>th</sup>** **Cherokee Storyteller Freeman Owle:** Join us at 7:00pm in AAAS room in Burwell Building.
- October 1<sup>st</sup>** **Fierce Green Fire Meeting:** 8:30pm in BSA 1.
- October 6<sup>th</sup>** **Athletic Recycling Initiative with Fierce Green Fire:** Join us before the Parents' Weekend football game and help educate the public on what can be recycled and how easy recycling can be. Contact Jan Patton [pattonje@email.wofford.edu](mailto:pattonje@email.wofford.edu) if you would like to help.
- October 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>** **Thinking Like A River Symposium:** Join us for the two-day symposium with 4 panelists. Susan Fox Rogers, Allison Hedgecoke, Mike Freeman, and David Furbish will be on hand to discuss a variety of topics on rivers. More details to follow.
- October 29<sup>th</sup>** **Deadline for Leadership Role Applications in Fierce Green Fire:** If you are interested in a leadership position in Fierce Green Fire, email Jan Patton (*see email above*) for information and descriptions of roles.
- October 31<sup>st</sup>** **Deadline for South Carolina Wildlife Federation Scholarships:** Scholarships will be awarded to full-time undergraduate or graduate students studying environmental education. Winners announced in December 2012. See Dr. Savage if you are interested in applying.

## PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

### *Pace University – Environmental Law Program*

Pace Law School's environmental law program is consistently ranked as one of the top three in the nation. Located in White Plains, NY, the school offers both JD and graduate students a variety of specialized law and joint degrees.

Pace has an international environmental law program and "hosts numerous initiatives, institutes, and programs with an international focus" and partners with institutions abroad to give students opportunities to study environmental law

internationally.

There are nearly 50 environmental law courses that "cover a wide range of national and international environmental, energy, conservation, and land use topics" and many opportunities to participate in clinics and externships.

For more information on their program, visit <http://www.law.pace.edu/environmental-law-program>.